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REMARKS

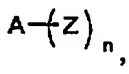
Claims 5-11 and 13-16 remain pending in the present application. Claim 5 has been amended to exclude alkyl groups as a substituent of the aromatic ring. As such, no new matter has been entered by way of amendment.

Reconsideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Rejection under 35 USC §102

Claims 5-11 and 13-17 stand rejected as being anticipated by the previously cited Thoms reference. Applicants respectfully traverse.

Thoms fails to disclose the Applicants' claimed compounds defined by Formula 1:



wherein *A* represents a substituted aromatic ring residue having, as a substituent, a cycloalkyl group, an alkenyl group, an alkinyl group, an aryl group, a heterocyclic group, a halogen atom, an alkoxy group, a cycloalkoxy group, an aryloxy group, an alkylthio group, a cycloalkylthio group, an arylthio group, an alkoxycarbonyl group, an aryloxycarbonyl group, a sulfamoyl group, a ureido group, an acyl group, an aclyoxy group, and amido group, a carbamoyl group, a sulfinyl group, an alkylsulfonyl group, anarylsulfonyl group, an amino group, a nitro group, a cyano group, or a hydroxyl group; ***n is a natural number of from 3 to 5***; and Z represents a monovalent organic group represented by the following formula 2, provided that formula 1 does not have an n-fold axis of symmetry,

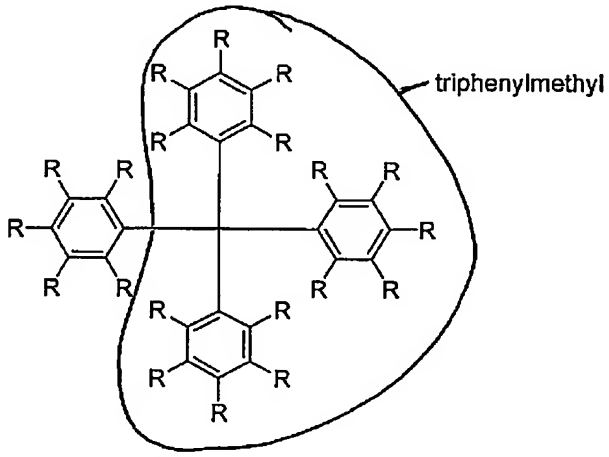
Formula 2

—L—Cz,

wherein L represents a chemical bond or a divalent linkage group; and Cz represents a substituted or unsubstituted carbazole residue, and wherein in formula 1, at least one Z has a chemical structure different from that of another Z.

The Examiner comments in the Advisory Action that "if n is 5 for the instant claims, the Thoms reference can have 6 carbazole residues which all have different substituents, which would allow the structure to be asymmetrical as required by the instant claims." However, Applicants' Claim 5 provides that ***n is a natural number of from 3 to 5***. Thus, Applicants claimed compounds cannot have 6 carbazole residues as alleged by the Examiner. Compounds having 6 carbazole residues falls outside the claimed scope of Formula (1).

Moreover, by excluding alkyl groups as a substituent of the aromatic ring, the structure disclosed in Thom's paragraph [0061] as shown below cannot possibly be construed as reading on Applicants' claimed compounds. The triphenyl ethyl "alkyl" group is expressly excluded as a substituent of the aromatic ring from Applicants' Claim 5.



In view of the foregoing, the rejection is requested to be withdrawn.

KOT-0084

It is believed that the foregoing amendments and remarks fully comply with the Office Action and that the claims herein should now be allowable to Applicants. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are requested. The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned should there be any additional questions or concerns.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130.

Respectfully submitted,

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